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# World Summit on Sustainable Development

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## Provisional agenda

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## Annotations

### 1. Opening of the Summit

The World Summit on Sustainable Development will be convened at the Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg, South Africa, on Monday, 26 August 2002.

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**2. Election of the President**

Rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Summit (see A/CONF.199/2 and Corr.1) provides that the Summit shall elect a President from among the representatives of participating States. Rule 44 provides that all elections shall be held by secret ballot unless, in the absence of any objection, the Summit decides to proceed without taking a ballot when there is an agreed candidate or slate.

**3. Adoption of the rules of procedure**

The provisional rules of procedure of the Summit were approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/226.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the provisional rules of procedure of the Summit (A/CONF.199/2 and Corr.1)

**4. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work of the Summit**

In accordance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure, the Summit shall, at its first meeting, adopt its agenda, the draft of which shall, until such adoption, be the provisional agenda of the Summit. The Summit will also decide on the organization of its work.

**Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations**

The Summit will take action on a number of applications for accreditation by intergovernmental organizations.

**Documentation**

Provisional agenda (A/CONF.199/1)

**5. Election of officers other than the President**

Under rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Summit shall elect, in addition to the President, 25 Vice-Presidents,[1] an ex officio Vice-President from the host country and a Rapporteur-General, as well as a Chairman for the Main Committee it established in accordance with rule 46. Those officials shall be elected on the basis of ensuring the representative character of the General Committee. The Summit may also elect such other officers as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

**6. Organization of work, including the establishment of the Main Committee**

In its resolution 55/199, the General Assembly decided to organize the 10-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 2002 at the summit level to reinvigorate the global commitment to sustainable development, and accepted with gratitude the generous offer of the Government of South Africa to host the

[1] Five from each of the following groups: African States; Asian States; Eastern European States; Latin American and Caribbean States; and Western European and other States.

summit. The Assembly also decided to call the summit the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

In its resolution 56/226, the General Assembly, recalling its resolution 55/199 and the decisions adopted by the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the Summit, decided that the Summit shall be open to all States Members of the United Nations and States members of the specialized agencies, with the participation of observers in accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly and its conferences and with the rules of procedure of the Summit. By the same resolution, the Assembly, inter alia, invited countries to be represented at the highest political level at the Summit. In addition, in its decision 2002/PC/6, the Commission, acting as the preparatory committee, recalling its decision 2001/PC/2, decided, inter alia, that:

(a) A series of partnership events involving stakeholders will take place in the plenary during the first week of the Summit;

(b) The general debate to be held in the plenary during the period 2 to 4 September will be open to all States;

(c) The time limit for statements will be five minutes;

(d) The list of speakers will be established by drawing of lots, in accordance with the customary protocol that ensures that heads of State or Government speak first, followed by ministers, followed by other heads of delegation;

(e) The general statements by entities, intergovernmental organizations and other entities that have received a standing invitation from the United Nations General Assembly to participate in their capacity as observers in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices, the specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations, interested United Nations organs, representatives of major non-governmental organizations and other major groups accredited to the Summit, and associate members of regional commissions will be made in the plenary on Thursday, 29 August, and Friday, 30 August 2002;

(f) The short multi-stakeholder event involving the highest level of representation from both major groups and Governments will take place on Wednesday, 4 September 2002, after the conclusion of the general debate in the plenary and before adoption of the final documents and the closure of the Summit;

(g) Four round tables, at the level of heads of State or Government, will be organized in parallel with the general debate, on one theme, "Making it happen!";

(h) Palestine, in its capacity as observer, shall participate in the general debate and one of the round tables provided that it is represented by its highest-ranking official.

Under rule 46, the Summit may establish a Main Committee, as required, which may set up subcommittees or working groups. In accordance with rule 47, each State participating in the Summit and the European Community may be represented by one representative on the Main Committee.

Under rule 48, in addition to the Main Committee, the Summit may establish such committees and working groups as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions. Subject to the decision of the Plenary, the Main Committee may set up subcommittees and working groups. In accordance with rule 49, the members of the

committees and working groups of the Summit referred to in rule 48, paragraph 1, shall be appointed by the President, subject to the approval of the Summit, unless the Summit decides otherwise.

Under rule 50, except as otherwise provided in rule 6, each committee, subcommittee and working group shall elect its own officers.

Members of subcommittees and working groups of committees shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee in question, subject to the approval of that committee, unless the committee decides otherwise.

The provisional rules of procedure also provide for the appointment of a Credentials Committee (rule 4) and a General Committee (rules 11-13).

A note by the Secretariat on organizational and procedural matters, including a proposed timetable for the work of the Summit, will be before the Summit for its consideration.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretariat on organizational and procedural matters (A/CONF.199/3)

**7. Credentials of representatives to the Summit**

**(a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee**

Rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that a Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Summit, and that its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its fifty-sixth session.

**(b) Report of the Credentials Committee**

In accordance with rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Credentials Committee shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Summit without delay.

**8. Partnership events**

The Commission acting as the preparatory committee, in its decision 2002/PC/6, decided that the series of partnership events involving stakeholders, in accordance with its decision at its first session, will take place in the plenary during the first week of the Summit.

**9. General debate**

The Commission acting as the preparatory committee, in its decision 2002/PC/6, also decided that the general debate to be held in the plenary during the period 2 to 4 September will be open to all States and will be organized as follows: Monday, 2 September (morning, afternoon and evening sessions, if required), Tuesday, 3 September (morning, afternoon and evening sessions, if required) and Wednesday, 4 September 2002 (morning session); and that the time limit for statements will be five minutes. The list of speakers will be established by drawing of lots, in accordance with the customary protocol that ensures that heads of State or

Government speak first, followed by ministers, followed by other heads of delegation;

By the same decision, the Commission acting as the preparatory committee also decided, taking into account the provisions noted above, that general statements by entities, intergovernmental organizations and other entities that have received a standing invitation from the United Nations General Assembly to participate in their capacity of observers in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations, interested United Nations organs, representatives of major non-governmental organizations and other major groups accredited to the Summit, and associate members of regional commissions will be made in the plenary on Thursday, 29 August, and Friday, 30 August 2002.

**10. Multi-stakeholder event**

The Commission acting as the preparatory committee, in its decision 2002/PC/6, decided that the short multi-stakeholder event involving the highest level of representation from both major groups and Governments will take place on Wednesday, 4 September 2002, after the conclusion of the general debate in the plenary and before adoption of the final documents and the closure of the Summit. The objective of that event will be to provide a forum for all major groups to renew their commitment to sustainable development and to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the Summit.

**11. Round tables**

The Commission as the preparatory committee, in its decision 2002/PC/6, decided that four round tables, at the level of heads of State or Government, will be organized in parallel with the general debate, on one theme, "Making it happen!". The round tables will be held on Monday, 2 September, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., on Tuesday, 3 September, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., and on Wednesday, 4 September 2002, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and will have the following modalities:

(a) Each of the round tables will comprise 70 seats: up to 50 for Government delegations and 20 for other participants, including the specialized agencies of the United Nations and related organizations and major groups;

(b) Any given State, international organization or representative of a major group can participate in only one of the round tables;

(c) Only heads of State or Government participating in a round table can be accompanied by an additional person, who will be seated behind;

(d) Generally, only heads of State or Government will be invited to speak during the round tables;

(e) A limited number of heads of United Nations organizations and agencies, which are members of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, as well as chief executive officers of private enterprises and representatives at similar levels from other major groups, may also be invited to speak at the round tables;

(f) The round tables will be chaired by heads of State or Government, who will be invited by the President of the Summit to perform that function. The chairpersons of the four round tables will come from the Asian Group, the Eastern European Group, the Latin American and Caribbean Group, and the Group of Western European and other States;

(g) States will be invited by the Secretariat to inscribe in order to participate in one of the round tables in advance of the Summit, bearing in mind that the total number of States participating in any given round table should not exceed 50, as provided in subparagraph (a) above;

(h) Proceedings of the round tables will be telecast in an "overflow room" that will be open to the media;

(i) The outcomes of the round tables will be reflected in the summaries of the chairpersons, which will be reported to the closing plenary meeting of the Summit and included in the final report of the Summit.

**12. Draft plan of implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development**

By its decision 2002/PC/4, the Commission acting as the preparatory committee decided to transmit to the Summit for further consideration the draft plan of implementation of the Summit.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the draft plan of implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (A/CONF.199/L.1)

**13. Political document**

In its resolution 55/199, the General Assembly decided that the Summit would consider and adopt a concise and focused document, which should reinvigorate, at the highest political level, the global commitment to a North/South partnership and a higher level of international solidarity and to the accelerated implementation of Agenda 21 and the promotion of sustainable development. In its decision 2002/PC/5, the Commission acting as the preparatory committee decided to entrust its Chairman to prepare elements for a political document to be considered at the Summit, on the basis of discussions held during the high-level ministerial segment, which elements would subsequently be posted on the official web site of the Summit (www.johannesburgsummit.org).

**14. Adoption of the report of the Summit**

The Summit will adopt a report on its activities, a draft of which will be prepared by the Rapporteur General and presented to the Summit for its approval.

**Documentation**

Draft report of the Summit (A/CONF.199/L._)

**15. Closure of the Summit**